

Application No. 09/652,058
Amendment "A" dated August 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed July 9, 2004

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants would like to express appreciation to the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives during the interview held on July 9, 2004. The proposed claim amendments and remarks made herein are consistent with the proposals and discussions presented during the interview.

The first Office Action, mailed July 9, 2004, considered claims 1-19. Claims 1, 11, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Katto (U.S. Patent No. 6,072,832) and claims 2 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katto¹.

By this paper, claims 1-2, 10-11, 15 and 17-18 have been amended and new claims 20-25 have been added², such that claims 1-25 remain pending, of which claims 1, 11, and 15 comprise the independent claims at issue (claim 1 being directed to a method claim, claim 11 being directed to a corresponding computer program product, and claim 15 being directed to a another corresponding method using functional language).

Each of the independent claims has been amended herein to incorporate subject matter that was found to be allowable in the last action. In particular, each of the independent claims have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter found in claims 3-5, 7-10, 12-14 and 17-19.

As discussed during the interview, and as reflected above, each of the amended claims generally relates to methods for independently timing presentation of video information by utilizing independent audio and video clocks. In particular, each of the claims generally includes an act of receiving a digital video signal and a digital audio signal; an act of extracting a plurality of digital video packets from the digital video signal; an act of extracting a plurality of digital audio packets from the digital audio signal; using the video clock to control the timing of the presentation of the video information represented by the plurality of digital video packets and using the audio clock to control the timing of the presentation of the audio information represented by the plurality of digital audio packets, wherein the audio clock operates separately

¹ Although the prior art status of the cited art is not being challenged at this time, Applicants reserve the right to challenge the prior art status of the cited art at any appropriate time, should it arise. Accordingly, any arguments and amendments made herein should not be construed as acquiescing to any prior art status of the cited art.

² The new dependent claims merely clarify alternative embodiments supported by the independent claims from which they depend.

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and independently of the video clock; and wherein at least one of the video clock or the audio clock compare a program clock reference within at least one of the digital video packets or digital audio packets, respectively, with a local time at the digital receiver and speed up or slow down the at least one clock in response to said comparison.

As further discussed during the interview, this claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor made obvious by the art of record. In fact, as suggested in the last action, Katto fails to teach such a method in which the audio clock and video clock are caused to independently speed up or slow down, in combination with the other claimed elements.

Accordingly, inasmuch as the art of record fails to anticipate or obviate the unique combination of recited claim elements, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims (1-25) should now be found allowable over the art of record.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediments to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 26 day of August 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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